

# AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS,

AND

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## THE NEW YEAR.

We began our January number last year with a classical allusion which we thought appropriate and witty. We had more animal spirits then, editorially, than we now enjoy; and we indulged in visions of a subscription list destined on the ensuing first of May to stretch out longer than the line of Banquo's issue. But far otherwise had the fates decreed! Our labors, alas! have not proved so acceptable. The numismatic community is either too wise to be taught, and flouts us; or too ignorant to desire teaching, and routs us: and between the two suppositions our subscription remains unaugmented. Negotiations are in progress, the result of which may be the transference of the editorship to hands more able to suit the taste of the time and fill the pocket of the publisher. Should they fail, our child must die at the close of its third year of life, worn out by the measles of meanness, and the scarlatina of stinginess, and the whooping cough of contempt, and the marasmus of general neglect, and, finally, by the Cholera Infantum which carries off so many unoffending young creatures, before they have filled a page in the great ledger of accountability on high.

However this may be, we tender to our faithful few for the second time our ANNVM NOVVM FAVSTVM FELICEM. And when another year shall have rolled away, may the salutation be renewed by another and more welcome editorial voice to a wider circle, ay! and be again and again repeated, till our bantling reach to man's full years and prove an honor to his name, and a credit to many friends!

## SCRAPS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

On a former occasion we ventured, without previous permission, to extract from the letters of various friends passages which we thought likely to interest or instruct our subscribers. We yielded also to the temptation to add a few which spoke in laudatory terms of our management of this publication. As no reproof of this course has thus far met our ear, we purpose to repeat the experiment, beginning this time by laying under contribution two letters of the complimentary kind, which however convey also information of value. We are gratified indeed at being enabled to record the approval of an authority so eminent as J. Carson Brevoort, Esq., President of the Long Island Historical Society. He writes us:

"I enclose three dollars for the American Journal of Numismatics, 1868-9. It is very instructive, and will, I trust, not be discontinued.

I have been examining my 'Fugio' cents, and find 22 obverse dies, and 24 reverse dies with the links. Do you know how many constitute a set?

Are large paper copies printed?—for, if so, I would much like to have Vols. II. and III. in that form besides the small paper ones. Mr. Norton gave me a large paper copy of the first volume."

It is quite beyond our power to answer Mr. Brevoort's first inquiry. The question is an interesting one, and has not, we think, been started before. In reply to the second, we can inform him that no large paper impressions were taken of any volume except the first. It was not until after two or three numbers of the second volume had been issued from a different press, that we learned of the existence of a few copies of the first volume on large paper; and it was then too late to make up for the inadvertence.

From a very kind and enthusiastic friend, Geo. C. Phillips, Esq., of Dayton, Ohio, we have just received the following:

"The JOURNAL for December, '68, is at hand, and I find that it contains its usual amount of interesting matter. Your article on 'Numismatics in Natural History' opens a new vein in the subject, one which I hope will be further explored. I regret that you feel compelled, in your last letter to me, to say that your 'efforts to elevate the pursuit of Numismatics are quite thrown away'. I can assure you that they are appreciated, though you at present may see no evidence of it. Your bread may be thrown upon the waters, but it must eventually return. Should our Magazine ever sink to the standard of the \* \* \* concern, I very much fear the effect which would be produced on our science. The \* \* \* paper is essentially a 'collector's' assistant. It will do for boys accumulating cents (not *sense*); but, when you come to the study of Numismatics, it is as so much waste paper. I hope that you will continue at the helm until the JOURNAL reaches the open sea of success.

Below I give you a description of a Medal which I have never seen mentioned. It was struck to commemorate the visit of the Japanese embassy to Philadelphia in 1860. One in gold was given to the Chief of the embassy, and one in silver to each member. There were several more silver ones struck than were needed; and, as I happened to be in the city at the time, Mr. Bailey gave me one of the extra medals.

Silver; size 33; Obverse, Bust of Washington looking to the right, Leg., GEORGIUS WASHINGTON PRAES PRIM RER CONF AMER MDCCCLXXXIX.; Reverse, Oak Wreath surrounding To THE JAPANESE EMBASSY FROM BAILEY & Co. JEWELLERS, PHILADELPHIA. 1860. The Medal is by Lovett".

With equal kindliness, but in more facetious mood, another of our brethren, one whose name is identical with that of

"The blind old man of Scio's rocky isle",

trusts that the JOURNAL

"is being well sustained, since it is a very readable publication, and its friends should declare, as the lamented Jackson did in regard to the Union: 'it must and shall be preserved!'".

Mr. Alfred Sandham writes from Montreal:

"I have great pleasure in remitting my subscription, and I consider it as three dollars well spent. I receive more than that amount in return, through the information which the Journal affords me, and I do sincerely trust that it may long continue to exist.

Should arrangements prove satisfactory, I hope to be able to place the work on "Canadian Coins" in the hands of subscribers by February 1, next, or perhaps sooner. The book will comprise about 75 pages, 8vo, illustrated by about 120 lithographed facsimiles of coins; and, should I issue the work myself, there will be about 30 woodcuts of Medals, with Chromo-lithographed facsimiles of the Seals of Canada as a frontispiece. It will be bound in cloth, gilt, and I think that it will be reasonable enough at One Dollar, Greenbacks".

Mr. R. Downing, of Cincinnati, approves of a new feature in our pages. He says:

"I have just glanced at the Journal, and find that you have named Mr. Day, Mr. Cleneay, and myself. I like your reminiscences. I think that I could give a few myself: as of when I took a Washington Cent of 1791 for a one cent pencil; and a gold guinea for two cents; and, again, an uncirculated Pine Tree Shilling for fifty cents, for which I got \$10. I am pleased to see that you intend to make photographs of some of your rarest cards. You must have some, of which I never heard".

Finally, from Mr. Cleneay of the same city, we are enabled to communicate the following interesting remarks on the "Copperhead" series of the West.

"In answer to your inquiry about my store-cards of the Copperhead variety, and whether I would exchange Silver or Nickel duplicates for other rare pieces, as you are 'ranging on those metals': The fact is I have paid very little attention to store-cards, either the old or new. In 1862-3, I dropped in at the office of W. R. Lanphear almost every day, and would find trays full of the Copperheads just from the press. It occurred to me that they would be sought for and collected as mementos of the War if not as cards, and at the same time illustrate what our people had to resort to, when they were in the midst of a mighty rebellion (I might say the most INFERNAL rebellion that ever disgraced a civilized nation since the world was made), with their circulating medium depreciated so much that all even of the *Base* metal coin of the realm was withdrawn from circulation, and these copperheads were substituted for the retired government coin. In taking the above view of things, I concluded to call every day and get as many new pieces or names as were made. I also had some Nickel cents prepared, filed and polished, and left with them at the shop; and an arrangement was entered into, when a new Design was made to take one impression for me on one of my Nickel planchets. This put me in possession of over one hundred most beautiful pieces. I believe I have every design gotten up by Lanphear. His designs are more artistic and finer, I think, than those of Stanton, or any other of our die-sinkers.

I cannot tell you anything about either my old or new pieces, as they are not arranged, neither have I them catalogued. At some future time, I will let you know what I can do for you in the way of exchange in cards. I do not believe there could be half a dozen Nickel Copperheads found in all the collections in this city, leaving out mine. I have also twenty-three silver cards made by Hughes. They are beautiful specimens.

I believe there are several silver cards made by Hughes, in different cabinets. I think Downing has one. Zanoni had one (his own card). Was it sold with his collection in New York? I don't remember. There was a Hughes card sold in some sale in New York in 1864. I bought Hughes' entire collection of American Silver in 1865, and that is the way I came in possession of his Silver and a few Nickel Copperheads, which he made for his own collection.

Mason of Philadelphia, I see from his Magazine, is writing on the varieties of the '93 U. S. Cents. He has fallen into the common error of describing the Chain Cents as with 'stripes and stars' on the edge".\*

\* We are indebted to a correspondent and subscriber for a sketch entitled "The Ogham Stone". It shall appear in our next number, provided "Amateur", as our contributor signs himself, will communicate to us, in confidence, his real name. We are under the necessity of requiring this avowal, as a safeguard against unwittingly publishing what may have already appeared in print elsewhere.

## COINS USED AS A MEANS OF INSTRUCTION.

"May 26, 1632, Mr. Wilton\* returns with his wife, who was 'the pious daughter of Lady Mansfield'. 'Her Kinsman, old Mr. Dod, for her consolation under difficulties' which she might experience in America, 'sent a brass counter, a Silver crown, and a gold Jacobus, all of them securely wrapped up, with this instruction unto the gentleman who carried it, that he should first of all deliver only the counter, and if she received it with any show of discontent, he should then take no further notice of her; but if she gracefully resented (appreciated) that small thing for the sake of the hand it came from, he should then go on to deliver the silver, and so the gold; but withal assure her, that such would be the dispensations of God unto her and the other good people of New England, if they would be content and thankful with such little things as God at first bestowed upon them, they should, in time, have silver and gold enough. Mrs. Wilton accordingly, by her cheerful entertainment of the least remembrance from Mr. Dod, gave the gentleman occasion to go through with his whole present and the annexed advice". *Felt's "Ecclesiastical History of New England"*. Vol. I, p. 158. BOSTON, December, 1868. J. C.

## JOHN LITTLEJOHN.

Prof. ANTHON.

DEAR SIR,—I find the following in a late number of the "Educator". No author's name is given. I have written to the Publisher of the Journal to inquire as to its origin.

If a selection, it may be already known to you: meantime I will communicate to you whatever I learn. I thought it might be worth reproduction in our "Journal" among the "Numismatic Poems".

In haste, Truly, Yours,

F. A. Wood.

John Littlejohn was staunch and strong,  
Upright and downright, scorning wrong:  
He gave good weight, and paid his way,  
He thought for himself, and he said his say.  
Whenever a rascal strove to pass,  
Instead of silver, money of brass,  
He took his hammer, and said, with a frown,  
"The coin is spurious, nail it down".

John Littlejohn was firm and true,  
You could not cheat him in "two and two";  
When foolish arguers, might and main,  
Darkened and twisted the clear and plain,  
He saw through the mazes of their speech  
The simple truth beyond their reach;  
And crushing their logic, said, with a frown,  
"Your coin is spurious, nail it down".

John Littlejohn maintained the right,  
Through storm and shine, in the world's despite;  
When fools or quacks desired his vote,  
Dosed him with arguments learned by rote,

Or by coaxing, threats, or promise, tried  
To gain his support to the wrongful side,  
"Nay, nay", said John, with an angry frown,  
"Your coin is spurious, nail it down".

When told that kings had a right divine  
And that the people were herds of swine,  
That nobles alone were fit to rule,  
That the poor were unimproved by school,  
That ceaseless toil was the proper fate  
Of all but the wealthy and the great,  
John shook his head, and said, with a frown,  
"The coin is spurious, nail it down".

When told that events might justify  
A false and crooked policy,  
That a decent hope of future good  
Might excuse departure from rectitude,  
That a lie, if white, was a small offence,  
To be forgiven by men of sense,  
"Nay, nay", said John, with a sigh and frown,  
"The coin is spurious, nail it down".

## NUMISMATICS IN CHARLESTON.

A NEW VERNON MEDAL.—THE "CAROLINA" MEDAL.—From Charleston, S. C., we have received of late several interesting letters. Their author is James H. Taylor, Esq., a widely esteemed numismatist. He informs us that the organization of a Numismatic Society in Charleston is being discussed there. The project is a most laudable one; and, as Mr. Taylor expresses a desire to be furnished with copies of the Constitutions of existing Societies, we invite all such as possess them in printed form to render aid by supplying him. Mr. Taylor contributes the two following valuable papers.

CHARLESTON, 5th January, 1869.

Prof. CHAS. E. ANTHON, *College of the City of New York*.

DEAR SIR.—The enclosed communication appeared in the Charleston Courier this morning, and of course I took a look at the "Rare Medal". Mr. Appleton's papers in your Journal, September

\* Rev. John Wilton, first Minister of Boston, New England, died August 7, 1667, aged 78.



1867, and January 1868, had made me familiar, so far as description goes, with the Vernon Medals. On examination I find that this does not precisely agree with any one described by him, and I am inclined to think it was struck by using the obverse die of one design, and the reverse of another. The Medal is *not* in very good condition. It is considerably worn on the edge, and the inscription is almost illegible in some places. I will endeavor to send you an impression from it.

Truly yours, &c.

J. H. T.

**A RARE MEDAL.**—We have been shown an old medal, found by a gentleman of this city, that is a perfect gem of antiquity, and over which we are confident that Numismatologists will go into ecstasies. It is about an inch in diameter, and the various figures and inscriptions on it are in a perfect state of preservation. On one side are raised busts of two distinguished naval officers, dressed in the naval costumes of the day, with the inscription "Admiral VERNON and Commodore BROWN" perfectly legible. On the reverse there is a representation of the harbor and town of Porto Bello, with two *bastinados*\* defending it, while six ships under sail are entering the bay. The whole is surrounded by the inscription: "Took Porto Bello with only six ships November 22, 1739".

The medal is one of the kind struck off during a political contest in England in the time of the premiership of the elder WALPOLE. The reader of history will remember that Admiral HOZIER had been sent by WALPOLE to the Spanish Indies with a fleet of over thirty ships, and that he remained inactive for a length of time, finally returning home without having accomplished anything. This exasperated the opposition, who soon compelled him to send out a second expedition, which consisted of only six ships, under the command of Admiral VERNON, which was more successful, having captured the town on the 22d of November, 1739. These medals were then struck off in commemoration of the event, as is indicated by the face.

The one before us was found in the lot at the corner of Broad and Orange-street, where an extremely dilapidated house formerly stood, and is in an excellent state of preservation. It may be seen at this office for a few days.

CHARLESTON, S. C., 18th January, 1869.

Prof. CHARLES E. ANTHON.

DEAR SIR.—The March number of the "Journal of Numismatics" contains a paper on "The Carolina Medal" "read before the American Numismatic and Archæological Society, Thursday Evening, February 27th, 1868". A description is given of it, and reference made to Johnson's Traditions and Reminiscences of the American Revolution for its history. For the sake of perspicuity I copy the inscriptions: Obv. "Both hands filled for Britain"; Exergue, "George Reigning"; Rev. "Growing Arts adorn Empire"; Exergue, "Caroline Protecting 1736". I presume the only authority the compiler of the Lillendahl catalogue had for calling this a "Carolina Medal", "struck by order of the Legislature of North Carolina, to commemorate the separation of the Province into North and South Carolina in 1736" was Johnson's Traditions. The statement has never had my acquiescence. The separation of the Province was officially announced in 1729, but was not effected until 1732, the medal bearing date 1736, and furnishing no evidence commemorative of that event. But the Catalogue of Dr. Richard Meade, published in 1755, describing the same medal, adds these words, "This is Mr. Jernagan's Silver Medal or Ticket for the sale of his famous Cistern". The writer of the paper above alluded to asks, "Who was Jernagan? What was his Cistern?" and these questions I suppose are not yet answered, although Mr. Bushnell explored the matter and sought information from Mr. Cureton, Keeper of the British Museum, who replied "that he knew nothing about it, except that the piece was always known in England as the Cistern Medal."

I submit the following extract from Knight's Pictorial London, Vol. 3, p. 87, as a probable explanation of the mystery of the medal, and a clear account of its origin, and use. About the year 1730 the British Parliament had under consideration the construction of the Westminster Bridge, and, to raise funds for this object, they passed an act authorizing a Lottery for £650,000. While this bill for the Bridge was in progress, the following curious incident occurred: "On the 2d of March, 1735, one Henry Jernagan, goldsmith, petitioned the House, stating, that he had made a Silver Cistern, that had been acknowledged by all persons of skill, who had seen the same, to excel whatever of the kind had been attempted in this Kingdom; that, after an expense of several thousand pounds on the workmanship alone, exclusive of the weight in silver, and after great hazards in the furnace, and four years of application to the raising and adorning the model the Cistern now remained on his hands". The House voted an instruction to the Committee on the Bridge to make provision for the petitioner by allowing him to dispose of his Cistern by Lottery; and these pieces are nothing more than Lottery Tickets for Henry Jernagan's Silver Cistern. For that purpose they were exceedingly appropriate. Jernagan's work was not only valuable but highly artistic. It was doubtless a chef-d'œuvre, and his tickets were in a measure emblematic and suggestive. They quietly yet truthfully give us whole pages of history. "George Reigning" expressed a fact, George II. being

\* With all due deference to the Reporter of the Charleston Courier, we must remark that we have always been wont to regard the *bastinado* as an offensive not a defensive word. Did he mean *bastions*?—ED.

King; but in 1736 Queen Caroline was holding her Court as Regent, the King being in Holland, and this is well expressed by the "Caroline Protecting". The figures represent protecting and fostering power, under which agriculture and the arts flourish. Connected with the object for which this medal, or Ticket, was struck, nothing could be more appropriate in design and inscription, and I presume the execution of the Cistern was equally excellent. I suggest that the piece be known hereafter as the "Jernagan Cistern Medal".

Truly, Yours

J. H. T.

### HONG-KONG COINAGE.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, BOSTON & ALBANY RAILROAD CO.,  
SPRINGFIELD, MASS., JANUARY 11th, 1869.

Prof. CHARLES E. ANTHON, Editor, &c.

DEAR SIR,—In the December number of the Journal mention is made of English Colonial coins, struck for use in China, as being rare and not having been put into circulation. I think this must be an error, as I have seen more or less of them, all in circulated condition. I send you rubbings of the Dollar, Ten Cents, One Cents and One Mill.

Yours Truly,

C. P. NICHOLS.

## TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

### AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

NOTICE.—*The American Numismatic and Archæological Society will be at all times pleased to communicate with any individuals or Societies, on Numismatic or Archæological topics, to answer questions and give all information desired. Letters of inquiry addressed to "ROBERT HEWITT, JR., 93 Wall St., Cor. Sec'y", will receive prompt attention.*

*Regular Meeting, Thursday, December 10th, 1868.*—The President in the chair. A copy of Hawkins' "English Silver Coins", and a Set of U. S. Fractional Currency were received as a donation from Mr. E. Cogan, and the thanks of the Society were voted.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters from Messrs. C. Gschwend; W. J. Jencks, of Philadelphia; C. S. Fellows, Boston; E. W. Parson; and Moore of Trenton Falls.

The President proposed as Resident Member Mr. J. Muhlenberg Bailey, and, under suspension of the rules, he was unanimously elected.

Mr. Geo. P. Upton, of Chicago, was, on nomination by Mr. Hewitt, elected a Corresponding Member.

On motion, a Committee was resolved on, with power, to consider the propriety of an Anniversary Dinner, and Messrs. Wood, Mackenzie and Hewitt were appointed such Committee.

The President exhibited, from his Cabinet, eleven fine specimens of the Medal-Dollars commemorating events in the reign of Ludwig I., late King of Bavaria. This eccentric monarch, grandfather of the present king Ludwig II., was compelled to abdicate in 1848, and died at Nice, on the 29th of February last year, peculiar even in the date of his death, and leaving a high (old) reputation as a lover of art and Lola Montez. Having conceived the happy idea of making his coinage interesting through a series of Reverses connected with the chief incidents of his administration, he caused to be struck a series of large silver dollars, thirty-nine in number, all bearing his head on the obverse, but each with an appropriate design and inscription on the other side. A complete collection of them does not, probably, exist on this side of the Atlantic. We subjoin—from a work, published at Leipzig, 1853, with beautiful electrotypes facsimiles of all these coins—a complete list of this desirable suite, for those who may wish to attempt its formation. The separate pieces are not infrequent at sales.

## I. PIECES COMMEMORATIVE OF STATE-AFFAIRS.

1. Foundation of the Bavaria-Württemberg Customs-Union, 1827.
2. Treaty of Commerce between Bavaria, Prussia, Württemberg and Hesse, 1829.
3. Customs-Union with Prussia, Saxony, Hesse, and Thuringia, 1833.
4. Accession of Baden to the German Customs-Union, 1833.
5. Consecration of the "Pillar of the Constitution", erected by Count Schönborn, 1828.
6. Bavaria's Fidelity, 1830.
7. Bavaria's Attachment to her Reigning House, 1834.
8. The Diet, 1834.
9. To the 30,000 Bavarians, who fell in the Russian War, 1833.
10. The King's Motto, 1831.
11. Establishment of the Bavarian Mortgage-Bank, 1835.
12. Monetary Union of the South-German States, 1837.
13. Division of the Kingdom on a Historical Basis, 1838.
14. Opening of the first Steam Railroad in Germany, between Nürnberg and Fürth, 1835.
15. The Ludwigscanal, 1846.

## II. PIECES COMMEMORATIVE OF EVENTS IN THE ROYAL HOUSE.

1. Blessings of Heaven. The Royal Family, 1828.
2. King Ludwig's Accession, 1825.
3. Otto, Prince of Bavaria, first King of Greece, 1832.
4. Monument of King Maximilian Joseph, erected by Munich, 1835.
5. Erection of the equestrian statue of Maximilian I., Elector of Bavaria, 1839.
6. Marriage of Crown-prince Maximilian of Bavaria to Princess Mary of Prussia, 1842.
7. Monument of the separation of Queen Theresa from her son King Otto, 1845.
8. Erection of Otto's Chapel, 1836.
9. Ludwig I. resigns the crown to his son Maximilian I., 1848.
10. Foundation of the Order of St. Michael, 1837.
11. Foundation of the Order of Theresa by Queen Theresa of Bavaria, 1827.
12. Founding of the Order of Ludwig, 1827.
13. Birth of Hereditary Prince Ludwig and Prince/Royal Ludwig, 1845.

## III. PIECES COMMEMORATIVE OF SCIENCE AND ART.

1. Removal of the Ludwig-Maximilian University from Landshut to Munich.
2. "To Merit its Crowns". Reichenbach and Fraunhofer, 1826.
3. Commitment of an Institution of Education to the Benedictines, 1835.
4. Centennial Celebration of the Founding of the University of Erlangen, 1845.
5. Erection of the statue of Albert Dürer at Nürnberg, 1846.
6. Erection at Würzburg of the statue of Prince-Bishop Julius Echter, 1847.
7. Erection at Munich of the statue of Glück, 1848.
8. The Walhalla, 1842.
9. Erection of the statue of Jean Paul Friedrich Richter in Bayreuth, 1841.
10. The "Hall of Generals", 1844.
11. Statue of Chancellor von Kreittmayr at Munich, 1845.

Adjourned to the second Thursday in January.

JAMES OLIVER, *Recording Secretary.*

## BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

*January, 1869.*—The annual meeting of this Society was held on the 7th inst. The following named gentlemen were elected officers for the current year: President, Jeremiah Colburn; Vice President and Curator, Judge J. P. Putnam; Treasurer, Henry Davenport; Secretary, William S. Appleton; Acting Secretary, John H. Ellis.

Mr. G. F. Seavey exhibited some pattern pieces struck in the United States Mint in 1867 and 1868. One had on the reverse "5 Cents", in a laurel wreath, with the legend "In God we trust". Another had on the reverse the Roman numeral "V" in a laurel wreath, the ends of which were connected by a ribbon on which were inscribed the words: "In God we trust", while above the ribbon was a small Maltese cross. There were a three cent piece and one cent of the same date (1868), bearing respectively on the reverse simply the Roman numerals "III" and "I" in laurel wreaths. Mr. Seavey also exhibited an aluminum pattern piece, which had on the obverse a delicate female head decorated with long flowing feathers, and a ribbon bearing the inscription "Union and Liberty". On the reverse was a "V" on a Union shield, with the legend "In God we trust", in small letters. The date was 1867. The work on all these pieces was light: the execution not at all above the average of our small nickel coin, and there was a singular lack of beauty in the designs.

Dr. S. A. Green drew attention to the following statement made by the Rev. Andrew Burnaby, Vicar of Greenwich, in a book published at London in 1775, entitled "Travels through the Middle Settlements in North America. 1750-60":

"There is less paper money in this colony (Massachusetts Bay,) than in any other of America; the current coin is chiefly gold and silver; and Boston is the only place, I believe, where there is a mint to coin money".

This statement is preserved in a French translation of the second edition of the book made by M. Willd, and published in Lausanne, in Switzerland, in 1778. It could have had no other foundation, however, than that of some chance story, and is manifestly incorrect. There was no established mint, and no coins are known to have been struck in America between the Pine Tree issue from the mint of John Hull in 1652, and the issue of the State Cents in 1783; except the Higley Coppers, of Connecticut; the Maryland Silver, struck by Chalmers, and the "Nova Constellatio" coppers, bearing the date of 1783. The different State coins followed hard upon the latter. The only possible exceptions are, the unique pine tree penny belonging to Mr. Wm. S. Appleton, from



a die engraved by Paul Revere, and struck in Boston in 1776, probably as a pattern piece, but never adopted by the State, and also the Vermont pattern piece, bearing date 1776, and the "Janus" copper, both in the collection of Mr. Stickney, of Salem.

Mr. Colburn read a short paper in regard to the counterfeit pine tree money that made its appearance in 1856, which is here presented as it may put future collectors on their guard,

"In the summer of 1856 I was waited upon by a person from New York city, who desired to see my collection of coins and medals. When shown my pine tree money he made inquiry as to the varieties. I showed him Felt's work on the Massachusetts currency, which he was very desirous to obtain. He asked me if I had ever seen the "Good Samaritan" piece, and the silver penny, as figured in Folkes' Coins. I informed him that I did not believe that any such coins were struck. He afterwards obtained a copy of Mr. Felt's book. Shortly after a notice appeared in the Boston Journal, saying that a hoard of "pine tree money", had been found in Chelsea. After much inquiry I was convinced that no coins had been found there, and that the item had been got up for a special purpose. Within a week or two after the appearance of the notice, a collector in this city purchased a set of the coins, including the penny, the Good Samaritan piece, and the ["N. E."] shilling and sixpence ["VI.,"]; the last two pieces were facsimiles from the plate in "Felt's Currency"—even to the lines across the sides of the pieces, which do not exist except in the fancy of the artist. I wrote to the person who fabricated the dies saying I should like to procure a set of the pine tree money lately found in Chelsea. Shortly after he replied and furnished me with a set of five pieces, on certain terms specified in his letters which are still in my possession. A well-known collector in the city of New York soon after exposed the fraud, and the individual who had issued the bogus pieces at once denied having ever had anything to do in relation to the matter. Occasionally specimens of them are found in collections and are difficult to be detected. I think they are all of silver and all exceedingly well executed.

Adjourned to the fourth of February.

JOHN HARVARD ELLIS, *Acting Secretary*.

#### RHODE ISLAND NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION.

*Regular Meeting, December 21, 1868.*—An interesting feature of this meeting was the exhibition of specimens of the 1793 cent. Some very fine pieces were shown by Messrs. Jenks, Gorton, and Winsor. The Liberty Cap (cracked die) and Clover Leaf varieties belonging to the latter gentleman attracted special notice, one for its condition, and the other for its rarity.

The Secretary exhibited a fine specimen of the Higley copper from the cabinet of Mr. P. Gschwend, Jr., of Pittsburgh, Pa. Letters were received from Messrs. S. S. Crosby, E. B. Wynn, P. Gschwend, Jr., and others.

G. D. HERSEY, *Secretary*.

#### NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF MONTREAL.

[On looking over our papers the other day, we found minutes of a meeting of this Society, held some time ago, which we had overlooked and neglected to insert in the JOURNAL. In apologizing for our carelessness and atoning for it, as far as we can, by now publishing the communication, we trust that the recent absence of intelligence from our respected friends in Montreal has not been owing to this cause, or, if so, that they will speedily renew the transmission of their proceedings, which we shall always be pleased to print for our readers' benefit.]

A meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday evening, 10th June, at their rooms, Craig St. J. L. BRONSDON, Esq., President, in the chair.

Two Bronze Medals of the McGill University of Montreal, viz., the "Prince of Wales," and the "Holmes," were presented by Mr. McLachlan. Mr. Sandham presented the first proof of a border, for the prospectus of the book on Canadian Coins, on which there is an engraving of the rare Upper Canada Copper Company's Coin, also the rare Montreal store card, "Owen's Ropery." Mr. McLachlan exhibited a medal of the Natural History Society of Montreal, description as follows, obv. An owl standing on a branch of a tree, with a twig in its mouth. Legend, "TANDEM. FIT. SURCULUS," rev., An oval garter in the centre, inscription "PALMAM. QUL. MERUIT. FERAT."; over the garter, the words, PRIZE.MEDAL. Legend, NATURAL. HISTORY. SOCIETY. MONTREAL. Size 28.

This medal was struck for the Natural History Society of Montreal, about the year 1835, but little is known of its origin, or by whom struck or where. It is undoubtedly an English medal. It was first given as a prize for Essays on the Natural History of Canada, for which advertisements were inserted

in the city papers, calling for Essays. They remained forgotten, in the possession of Dr. Holmes till his death, when they went into the possession of Dr. David, for about ten years, who handed them over to the Society. Commencing in 1863, a medal was given annually to the member who has labored most, in advancing the knowledge of the Natural History of Canada. The member on whom the honor was conferred this year was Principal Dawson, Chancellor of the McGill College and University of Montreal. There were struck about 24 Bronze, and 12 Silver copies. At present there remain in the possession of the Society 3 copies in Silver, and 20 in Bronze.

Mr. Sandham exhibited two engravings, one the burning of the Parliament Houses at Montreal in 1849, the other the ruins of the same after the fire.

At this fire there was destroyed a library of 50,000 volumes, of which 1800 were on Canada.

The Board of Agriculture for Lower Canada, presented one of their Bronze Medals. On motion the meeting adjourned.

#### DEATH OF JAMES B. LONGACRE, ESQ.—MEETING AT THE MINT.

At noon, yesterday, all the officers, clerks, and workmen of the United States Mint assembled to take official notice of the death of Mr. Longacre, late Engraver of the establishment.

On motion of Mr. J. C. Booth, melter and refiner, Dr. H. R. Linderman, director, was called to the chair, and Mr. A. L. Snowden, chief coiner, was chosen secretary. On assuming the chair, Dr. Linderman addressed the meeting as follows:

GENTLEMEN: The occasion of our meeting this morning is one of peculiar solemnity. A man, venerable in age, exalted in character, and beloved by all who knew him, has, after a life of usefulness and honor, been suddenly struck down by death, and his mortal remains now lie enshrouded in the habiliments of the tomb.

I refer to Mr. James B. Longacre, who, since the year 1844, filled with skill and fidelity the office of engraver at the Mint. Although our departed friend had reached the ripe age of seventy-five, his physical and mental powers were so well preserved, that it was not unreasonable to hope his useful life might be spared for at least a few years more: but it was otherwise ordered, and he was permitted to die, as it were, in the harness, and to rest from his labors without having suffered any of the infirmities usually attendant upon old age. My acquaintance with Mr. Longacre dates back to the year 1853, from which time to the day of his death our relations were of the most friendly and confidential character. So much so, that perhaps no man in this institution knew him better than I. And now, that he has passed beyond the reach of praise or censure, I do his memory but simple justice when I state, that in all that time I never knew Mr. Longacre to say or do that which any man could truthfully say was wrong, or that was unbecoming a faithful officer, or a high-minded Christian gentleman, and I may add, that it will ever be to me a source of pride and satisfaction that I enjoyed the esteem and confidence of that pious, just, and learned man.

Mr. Longacre, my friends, was no ordinary man. His talents were of a high order, and would, with his industrious and frugal habits, have enabled him to achieve success and distinction in any professional or business career. His refined nature, however, appeared to avoid the sharp conflicts of life, and he sought, in quiet devotion to art, a congenial field for the exercise of his powers, and in it he achieved a success sufficient to satisfy a reasonable ambition. He reached by merit alone the honorable position of engraver of the National Mint, and so discharged its duties for a period of a quarter of a century as to command the continued confidence of the government and the public. Mr. Longacre was a man of strong religious faith, and adorned that faith by his daily walk and conversation. Like all truly great and good men, he was modest in deportment. His official duties were performed with a faithfulness worthy of all commendation; whilst his intercourse with his brother officers and subordinates was characterized by dignity, frankness, and urbanity, and the utmost kindness. After a long and useful life, and with faculties unimpaired, our friend passed peacefully and contented to his rest. Let us ever cherish his memory, and strive to emulate his virtues.

Mr. BARBER, assistant engraver, then delivered a high eulogium on the character of the deceased as an artist and Christian gentleman. Mr. WM. E. DUBOIS, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, then presented the following, which were unanimously adopted:

JAMES B. LONGACRE, our engraver, has left the Mint, no more to return. Having passed the boundary line of threescore years and ten with an eye not dim, though with natural force abated, he still sat at his bench a few days since, at work with the graver which he handled so skilfully, and which has given character to our coinage for twenty-four years. Now, by a rapid disease, he is numbered with the dead. We, the officers, clerks, and workmen of the Mint have assembled to join in a testimony to his worth, both as an officer and a man; therefore,

*Resolved*, That, while we know that our departed friend had filled up the time appointed to man on earth, it is with profound sorrow that we record his departure, and the loss of his services to this institution and to the country.

*Resolved*, That the pain of separation is greatly mitigated by the fact, that a well-spent life and a thorough Christian preparation rendered him so well fitted to realize those heavenly hopes which were his chief source of happiness.

*Resolved*, That in the line of his profession, we claim for him a fine artistical taste, a mind capable of meritorious designs, and a hand adequate to carry them through; so that the devices on our coins, however limited by legislative restrictions and by popular ideas, compare favorably with those of any other country.

*Resolved*, That in social intercourse we found him to be able, dignified, polite, and friendly; retiring without being reserved; possessed of large information, by study and travel; pure in speech and action, and firm in what he considered the path of duty. We accept the lessons afforded by his consistent character, and by this fresh warning of our own mortality.

*Resolved*, That we will attend his funeral in a body, and that a copy of these resolutions be signed by the officers of this meeting, and conveyed to the family of the deceased.—*Phila. Press, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1869.*